ABSTRACT

Aspects for increasing control information from a single general purpose input/output (GPIO) mechanism are described. The aspects include utilizing a single GPIO mechanism with a socket on a computer system. Determinations of whether a first card, a second card, or no card is installed in the socket occur according to detected changes in signal states on a single signal line between the GPIO mechanism and the socket. Detection of a first state on the single signal line indicates presence of a first card in the socket, while detection of a second state on the single signal line indicates presence of a second card in the socket. Detection of a state change on the single signal line indicates no card presence in the socket, where the changes occur in response to signals sent by a POST (power-on self test) routine to the GPIO mechanism.